

B¹
Amend

detection signal. DNA encoding the polypeptide may be introduced directly into an animal and cause in vivo expression, resulting in the formation of antibodies specific for the polypeptide. The formed antibodies are detected or enriched by reacting with the bound polypeptide.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 18, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Amend the claims as follows:

1. A process for producing antibodies that react specifically with a polypeptide, wherein:

- B²
- (a) DNA encoding the polypeptide is expressed in a host cell which is derived from a mammal using a vector that possesses at least one sequence encoding a detection signal that is linked to the sequence encoding the polypeptide, and the expressed polypeptide is bound to a solid phase with the aid of the detection signal,
 - (b) independently of step (a), the DNA encoding the polypeptide is introduced directly into an animal, resulting in expression of a polypeptide in the animal, which expression causes the formation of antibodies against the polypeptide and wherein the expression vector employed for the genetic immunization in step (b), is also used *in vitro* for producing the target protein, and
 - (c) the antibodies which are formed in step (b) are reacted with the polypeptide formed in step (a) and detected or enriched.
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3. The process according to claim 2, wherein the detection sequence is selected from the group consisting of His₆₇ tag sequence, the hemagglutinin sequence of an influenza virus and the myc tag sequence.

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7. The process according to claim 1, wherein the DNA encoding the polypeptide that is introduced directly into an animal in accordance with step (b) is present in the expression vector.

8. The process according to claim 1, wherein the DNA encoding the polypeptide is introduced into the animal in step (b) using a gene gun.

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10. The process according to claim 1, wherein in step (b), a genetic adjuvant is administered in addition to the DNA encoding the polypeptide.

REMARKS

Objection to the title and abstract

The Examiner asserts on page 3 of the office action that the title "is not descriptive" and that the abstract "comprises four paragraphs/"

In response, applicants provide a new title and a condensed abstract of one paragraph.

Reconsideration of these objections courteously is requested.

Objection to typographical error in claim 3

The Examiner points out a typographical error in claim 3. Claim 3 has been